

# **REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE**



United States Department of Agriculture

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

MOUNTAIN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE

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## FARM COMPUTER USAGE AND OWNERSHIP

# **ARIZONA**

The percentage of Arizona farms with internet access in 2021 was 63 percent, unchanged from 2019. Of those farms having computer access, 53 percent own or use a desktop or a laptop, unchanged from 2019. The percentage of farms that used a computer to purchase agricultural inputs was 31 percent, an increase of 5 percentage points from 2019.

The most common method of accessing the internet was broadband at 50 percent. Cellular was next at 46 percent followed by satellite at 18 percent. All other methods accounted for 4 percent.

## **COLORADO**

The percentage of Colorado farms with internet access in 2021 was 84 percent, unchanged from 2019. Of those farms having computer access, 71 percent own or use a desktop or a laptop, down 8 percentage points from 2019. The percentage of farms that used a computer to purchase agricultural inputs was 33 percent, a decrease of 7 percentage points from 2019.

The most common methods of accessing the internet was cellular at 67 percent. Broadband was next at 40 percent followed by satellite at 23 percent. All other methods accounted for 4 percent.

## **MONTANA**

The percentage of Montana farms with internet access in 2021 was 88 percent, an increase of 5 percentage points from 2019. Of those farms having computer access, 81 percent own or use a desktop or a laptop, up 2 percentage points from 2019. The percentage of farms that used a computer to purchase agricultural inputs was 32 percent, an increase of 3 percentage points from 2019.

The most common method of accessing the internet was cellular at 63 percent. Broadband was next at 61 percent followed by satellite at 18 percent. All other methods accounted for 8 percent.

#### **NEW MEXICO**

The percentage of New Mexico farms with internet access in 2021 was 50 percent, an increase of 8 percentage points from 2019. Of those farms having computer access, 36 percent own or use a desktop or a laptop, up 1 percent percentage point from 2019. The percentage of farms that used a computer to purchase agricultural inputs was 13 percent, a decrease of 3 percentage points from 2019.

The most common method of accessing the internet was cellular at 58 percent. Broadband was next at 45 percent followed by satellite at 15 percent. All other methods accounted for less than one half a percent.

#### **UTAH**

The percentage of Utah farms with internet access in 2021 was 96 percent, an increase of 4 percentage points from 2019. Of those farms having computer access, 77 percent own or use a desktop or a laptop, down 3 percentage points from 2019. The percentage of farms that used a computer to purchase agricultural inputs was 45 percent, an increase of 11 percentage points from 2019.

The most common method of accessing the internet was cellular at 71 percent. Broadband was next at 68 percent followed by satellite at 14 percent. All other methods accounted for 4 percent.

#### **WYOMING**

The percentage of Wyoming farms with internet access in 2021 was 89 percent, an increase of 1 percentage point from 2019. Of those farms having computer access, 76 percent own or use a desktop or a laptop, down 9 percentage points from 2019. The percentage of farms that used a computer to purchase agricultural inputs was 25 percent, a decrease of 2 percentage points from 2019.

The most common method of accessing the internet was cellular at 79 percent. Broadband was next at 43 percent followed by satellite at 20 percent. All other methods accounted for less than one half a percent.

## **UNITED STATES**

Nationally, 82 percent of farms reported having access to the internet with 98 percent paying for access. In 2021, 29 percent of farms used the internet to purchase agricultural inputs, which was an increase of 5 percent from 2019. Additionally, 21 percent of farms used the internet to market agricultural activities, which was an increase of 2 percent from 2019. Farms which conducted business with non-agricultural websites in 2021 decreased by 6 percent to 47 percent.

In 2021, 50 percent of internet connected farms utilized a broadband connection while 70 percent of internet connected farms had access through a cellular data plan. Additionally, 67 percent of farms had a desktop or laptop computer while 77 percent of farms had a smart phone.

## **Special Note**

The questions for the Farm Computer Usage and Ownership questionnaire have changed since the last publication in 2019 to reflect modern internet access and usage. Therefore, there may not be direct comparisons between certain data points. Some changes included reporting multiple types of internet access, consolidating redundant questions, and the addition of a precision agriculture question.

For a full copy of the 2021 Farm Computer Usage and Ownership report, please visit <a href="www.nass.usda.gov">www.nass.usda.gov</a>. For state specific questions, please contact:

| Arizona – Dave DeWalt          | 1-800-645-7286 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Colorado – William R. Meyer    | 1-800-392-3202 |
| Montana – Eric Sommer          | 1-800-835-2612 |
| New Mexico – Longino Bustillos | 1-800-530-8810 |
| Utah – John Hilton             | 1-800-747-8522 |
| Wyoming – Rhonda Brandt        | 1-800-892-1660 |